



RCRA and RCC Regional Roundup

December 2008 Edition

The RCRA and RCC Regional Roundup highlights EPA regional and headquarters' activities regarding RCRA Subtitle D and actions to meet Resource Conservation Challenge (RCC) goals by focusing on developments in the four national priority areas: Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Recycling and Waste Reduction, Industrial Materials Recycling (IMR), Priority Chemicals (NPEP) and Green Initiatives: Electronics and Green Buildings.

Archived publications can be found on the MISWD Intranet: <http://intranet.epa.gov/intraosw/miswd/roundups.htm>

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Municipal and Solid Waste Recycling and Waste Reduction

Region 7's Carbon Footprint Team Talks Trash

On December 9, 2008, Region 7's Carbon Footprint team held an informative "brown bag" session, Trash Talk, in conjunction with its Carbon Footprint Challenge. The session was the third in a series of presentations focused on helping regional employees reduce their personal carbon footprints. Matt Riggs of the Mid-America Regional Council discussed recycling options and tools, and Julie Coon of Johnson County, Kan., spoke of landfill issues and recycling benefits. **Contact: Kim Olson, 913-551-7458**

Mid America Regional Council Solid Waste Management Meeting

On December 10, 2008, Jennifer Dawani of Region 7 attended the Mid America Regional Council Solid Waste Management District annual meeting and awards luncheon. There she met and visited with members of local governments in the Kansas City region. Jennifer discussed recycling and was photographed with the Mayor and of Platte City, MO and the Planning and Zoning Director of Platte County, MO. The photo was printed in 2 local newspapers. **Contact, Jennifer Dawani 913-551-7162**

Southeast Recycling Development Council Inc. (SERDC) Recycling Summit 2008 Celebrates Success! 225 Attendees and 43 exhibiting companies, representing 21 states and 3 countries joined SERDC in Point Clear, Alabama for SERDC Recycling Summit 2008: The Measure of Success (Nov 12-14).

Early response indicates attendees were very pleased with the location, program and presenters, and social networking opportunities. Southern hospitality was at its best with delicious food, great entertainment, charming accommodations and the welcoming staff at the Grand Hotel.

Summit organizers report the economic benefits of recycling were the message that really perked discussion among the attendees. Plenary speakers from Shaw Industries and Honda Manufacturing of Alabama shared both internal and external sustainable programs that focused on zero waste initiatives. Additional Summit highlights included the Legislative Roundtable, Fast Pitch happy hour & business card exchange and the Thursday Evening Reception & Silent Auction with Exhibitors. Noticeably, the Summit attracted key decision makers and stake holders with many elected officials and recycling executives participating in the sessions and receptions.

SERDC Chairman, Arthur Ferguson, shared his thoughts on the event. "The theme was "The Measure of Success" and the presentations illustrating this theme were informative as well as educational. We were fortunate indeed to have State Senators and Representatives from several states in attendance and participating in some of the sessions along with Federal, State and Local Directors and department heads. EPA Region 4 was well represented and attended or presented at several sessions, including sessions on the Municipal Government Toolkit, Organics, and others. A great deal of credit should be given to the entire Summit Planning Team, led by Chair, Stephanie Baker and our Program co-chairs, Scott Mouw and Mark Williams. They did an outstanding job." Thank you to all who sponsored, exhibited, presented and/or attended and made this event such a success for SERDC and the Southeast recycling industry. Please **contact Rhonda Rollins at 404-562-8664, rollins.rhonda@epa.gov** for more information.

2008 R4 States' Solid Waste and Recycling Managers Meeting in Nashville, TN

RCRA Programs and Material Management co-hosted the 2008 R4 States' Solid Waste and Recycling Managers meeting in Nashville, TN on December 2-4, 2008. During the meeting, discussions included identifying relevant solid waste issues, goals and objectives, and the future of the program.

The meeting succeeded in bringing all of the States together in a collaborative partnership to discuss our combined solid waste and recycling efforts. Again, this meeting compliments our goals to develop programs and activities to facilitate the reduction of solid waste in the Southeastern Regional States. Overall, the meeting was well-received. Please **contact Delores Rodgers-Smith, 404-562-8479, rodgers-smith.delores@epa.gov** for more information.

City of Atlanta: Sustainable Atlanta Recycling and Materials Management Taskforce Recommendations

Background:

In September 2008, Sustainable Atlanta through the City of Atlanta (CoA) commissioned a taskforce and workgroup, chaired by Joe Basista, City of Atlanta Commissioner of Public Works, to develop city-wide policy/recommendations and a framework for increasing recycling and better material management in Atlanta for Mayor and the City Council's consideration.

The members of the Sustainable Atlanta taskforce included Atlanta Recycles (with EPA Region 4 (Jon Johnston/Jay Bassett) as steering committee representatives), Georgia Recycling Coalition, City of Atlanta Recycling Manager, City of Atlanta Solid Waste (Department of Public Works) and Industry Representatives from Interface, Coca Cola, Pratt industries, Allied Waste, and Patterson Services

A purpose and mission was the first priority and provided the foundation and was an essential guide for the taskforce to meet the December 2008 deadline with meaningful recommendations:

Purpose:

To assist the City of Atlanta in focusing their efforts and resources more effectively in identifying sectors, commodities, economic value and data gaps that exist and to increase recycling and sustainable practices within the City.

Mission Statement:

Increase the amount of commercially viable, recoverable resources going to the most beneficial end markets, while encouraging development of new markets with a goal that all recommendations of the taskforce are intended to promote the attainment of the City's long-range zero waste goals.

With an aggressive agenda, a number of existing resources, reports and analysis were essential and compiled for the taskforce to meet its mission. One key resource was the Region's recently completed

"City of Atlanta Recycling Market Analysis- Understanding the Whole Picture". The report provided an initial foundation for the biweekly discussions and identified an Atlanta area opportunity to recover an estimated 1.98 million tons of valuable commodities with in an estimated revenue lose of \$159.8 million and missed cost savings of \$42 million in waste disposal fees that were disposed in landfills as supported in the Georgia's 2005 *Municipal Solid Waste Characterization Study*.

Proposed Policy statements and Recommendations:

As of December 19, 2008, the taskforce has agreed to propose ten policy recommendations in two broad categories:

Market Development

Review city zoning ordinances and codes to remove impediments toward establishment of recycling and organic recovery facilities within city limits. In 2009, a review of existing codes and ordinances and creation of new legislation to encourage recycling infrastructure is recommended.

CoA will develop a cost-neutral preferential green purchasing policy for all CoA operations. In 2009, develop a list of applicable material, legislation-procurement code, and procurement procedures.

Require that the building permitting process include requirement for the submission and approval of construction waste management and recycling plans for new construction and for renovation projects for all city operations.

CoA will develop incentives to encourage recycling-related and other green businesses to locate or expand within the City of Atlanta. In 2009, identify incentives and work legislation.

CoA will incentivize the establishment of exchange businesses or NGOs that re-use or re-sell materials that otherwise become waste. Research in 2009 and implement in 2010.

Increase Material Recovery

Require all solid waste/recycling haulers report tonnage to the COA of waste and recovered material collected within the CoA. Implement in 2009 through reporting legislation and use of the State-wide Re-Trac reporting tool.

Require all commercial property owners provide access to recycling for tenants and customers. Implement in 2009 through legislation similar to an existing ordinance for multi-family residential recycling.

CoA will develop partnerships for the establishment of non-exclusive drop-off sites for recoverable materials. In 2009, conduct code review, legislation, and procurement for private partners with identification of sites and installation in 2010

CoA will implement volume-based billing system for collection of solid waste and recyclables for single-family residential customers. In 2009, implement a cost of service study and propose legislation with physical Implementation after 2010 (assumes adequate/upfront funding (public/private))

The Mayor's office will establish an environmental leadership and recognition program for education, training, technical assistance, and acknowledgement of commercial, residential, industrial and institutional champions for recycling, green practices and development of green industry and jobs.

Next Steps

Sustainable Atlanta to align the recommendations with outcomes from the three other Sustainable Atlanta Taskforces focused on water, green building, and energy. The Material Management and Recycling taskforce will reconvene in late January to address any changes proposed during the alignment

For 2009: The taskforce may be reconvened to address implementation framework and issues as the recommendations are pushed forward.

Note: The city provided an update on directed impacts related to the continuing slowing of the national and international economy. City revenues are down this year (July-Jun) by over 12%. The shortfall has lead to a 20% budget reduction, a hiring freeze, furlough for all city employees of one day per pay period, and the layoff of over 220 (60 in PW) city employees. The result is reductions and in some cases the elimination of city services. For recycling programs, the collection of recyclable will be reduced from every week to every other week and will require the re-sequencing of routes. The city is providing flexibility at the curb for residents and has a public outreach plan getting to deploy to minimize impacts to access and confusion around the service changes. The incentive based pilot and distribution of 96 gallon carts will continue though it may be a slower pace. A key message is the service reduction is in response to decreasing city revenue and is not in response to the recent fluctuations in the commodities market. The City remains committed to a robust recycling program as an integral part of its solid waste management plan respective of both good and poor economic conditions.

Industrial Materials Recycling (IMR)

Industrial Materials Recycling (IMR)

OSW meets with the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)

OSW again met with the AGC Environmental Network Steering Committee (ENSC) during their annual meeting with EPA offices. OSW and the AGC ENSC decided to finalize the white paper demonstrating IMR support and the online Contractor Toolkit. They also agreed to develop a method of recognition for contractors who are successful recyclers and continue to explore methods of measuring C&D materials nationally. The AGC also welcomes interaction between the EPA Regional Offices and AGC's chapter offices. Chapters can be found at http://www.agc.org/cs/about_agc/find_a_chapter. **Contact Kim Cochran** for a list of chapter contact names, **703-347-8950, cochran.kimberly@epa.gov**

Alabama DEM Hosts NRC and IRC Industrial Byproducts Workshop

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) hosted the National Recycling Coalition, Industrial Resources Council Industrial Byproducts Workshop on November 5 in Birmingham. Attendance was good, and participants viewed presentations on foundry sands, coal combustion byproducts, steel slag, recycled concrete, and scrap tires. At the beginning of the workshop, ADEM presented an overview of their new Alabama Recycling Fund Grants Program. The fund is open to local governments and non-profit organizations, and grants will be issued for the promotion of recycling within the state. Funding for these grants is provided by a \$1/ton tipping fee on solid waste disposed in Alabama. Following the industrial materials recycling workshop, scrap tire staff from several Region 4 states met to discuss numerous issues. **Please contact Gavin Adams (ADEM), (334) 271-7770; Steve Smith, 404-562-8501, smith.steve@epa.gov or Karen Bandhauer, 404-562-9122, bandhauer.karen@epa.gov.**

CCP Demonstration Project in Rome, GA

EPA Region 4, the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and Georgia Power Company are partnering on a coal combustion project in Rome, GA. While not a new application in other parts of the country, the use of fly ash as a substitute for borrow fill in the construction of state highways is an important pilot for the State of Georgia. The State currently requires two site specific variances from the GA Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act and the GA Hazardous Site Response Act for this type of project to take place. The extensive environmental monitoring that is occurring as part of the pilot will help the State of Georgia determine if rule changes providing for an ash use exemption for structural fill applications are acceptable and technically defensible. The pilot will also help to demonstrate to Georgia Power the economic and technological feasibility of using ash as a fill. The ash has been placed in a 200-ft segment of the state highway, next to a control segment. Recently, a resident of Rome, GA raised concerns about the pilot's location and potential karst in the area, and contacted his County Commissioner. As a result, the project team meet with the Commissioners, answered their questions, invited a county representative to join the project team, and enlisted a geologist from Georgia Power to

study the area. So far, there is no evidence of karst in the immediate area and the project is on schedule. **Please contact Karen Bandhauer, 404-562-9122, bandhauer.karen@epa.gov for more information.**

Region 5 Stakeholder Meeting on Drywall Recycling

On December 10th, 2008, Region 5 hosted an initial discussion on drywall recycling among 24 regional stakeholders, including representatives from all Region 5 states, the City of Chicago, the Chicago Waste-to-Profit Network, the US Green Building Council Chicago Chapter, the Construction Materials Recycling Association, the Gypsum Association, and four drywall manufacturers that produce products in the region. Drywall is a major component of the construction and demolition waste stream that is not readily recyclable due to the lack of well-developed markets for the material. Participants discussed regional market conditions, several logistical issues with regards to drywall-to-drywall recycling, the status of state drywall recycling market development efforts, and the need to update the existing information resource on the internet on drywall recycling. Stakeholders will evaluate feasible next steps for developing markets in the region and identify opportunities for collaboration.

Contact: Julie Gevrenov: 312-886-6832

Region 5 Hosts Green Highway Webinar

On December 9, 2008 Region 5 hosted a webinar for Region 5 State Department of Transportation Officials to share information about green highway concepts and to seek input from DOT representatives regarding their interest in green highways. All Region 5 states were represented. Dr. Kevin Gardner, Co-Director of the Recycled Materials Resource Center provided an overview of Green Highway approaches, including various rating systems. Dr. Gardner provided specific information about the use of recycled materials in road construction, highlighting both economic and environmental benefits. The State DOT participants expressed interest in a green highway effort and in additional information regarding industrial material use. Another webinar will be offered in February, which will focus on the use of fly ash in soil stabilization. In addition, Region 5 will work with RMRC to consider a more in-depth green highway meeting for Regional DOTs. **Contact: Susan Mooney 312-886-3585**



Priority Chemicals NPEP

Priority Chemicals (NPEP)

Region 5 Tribal NPEP Partner Recognized at OSWER Tribal Forum

On December 3, EPA's National Partnership for Environmental Priorities (NPEP) Program recognized the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for their recent membership with the NPEP program. Region 5 successfully partnered with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians Grand Casino (in Hinckley, MN) to be the first tribal partner in the nation to join the NPEP program. Mille Lacs, is working with NPEP to reduce mercury throughout the casino and with its residents. The NPEP program is a voluntary program which targets the reduction of 31 priority chemicals, specifically mercury, cadmium, PAHs and lead. **Contact: Janet Haff, 312-353-7923**

Region 9 Welcomes New NPEP Partner

The City of Oxnard is Region 9's newest partner in the National Partnership for Environmental Priorities. The City of Oxnard has committed to replacing its fleet's leaded wheel weights with steel wheel weights by the end of this year, for a total lead reduction of 260 lbs. Through NPEP, EPA partners with public and private organizations to reduce the use or release of any of 31 Priority Chemicals (PCs). **Contact Andre Villasenor, 213-244-1813.**



Electronics

Electronics

Minnesota Electronic Waste Recycling Workshop Presentation on Cathode Ray Tube Rule

On December 17th, 2008, Region 5 presented information on the Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) Rule at a workshop for electronics recyclers. The Rule went into effect in January, 2007 with the intent of providing regulatory clarity regarding the management of used cathode ray tubes by providing a conditional exclusion from the federal hazardous waste management standards when CRTs or CRT glass is reused or recycled. In addition to the presentation, Region 5 demonstrated the Rule website where companies can find out if their business partners have filed notifications for reuse or recycling.

Contact: Chris Newman 312-353-8402

EPEAT TVs Gets Turned On

Region 9's Pollution Prevention Team will participate in the launch of the EPEAT TV Standard Study Group on Wednesday, December 17. The study group is convened under the IEEE Standards Association to evaluate and decide whether to develop an environmental performance standard for TVs. This first meeting of the study group will involve approximately 62 people representing manufacturers, suppliers, NGOs, government agencies, and purchasers. The goal of the group is to come to consensus on the scope and timing of a potential standard in the next 3 months. In related news, the EPEAT Imaging Equipment standard workgroup held its initial meeting last week. That group has already decided to go forward with a standard for imaging equipment (printers, copiers, etc). Both these meetings were results of the product scoping meetings EPA sponsored last spring, and are being facilitated by the University of Tennessee Center for Clean Products under a grant from EPA, matched by funding by other stakeholders. EPA staff from HQs and Region 9 have been nominated to serve as co-chairs for both the TV Study Group and the Imaging Equipment Workgroup. **Contact John Katz at 415-972-3283.**

Green Electronics for Alameda County

Region 9's Pollution Prevention Team presented on how to buy greener electronics at the Alameda County Green IT Symposium last Friday. The first-ever Symposium - sponsored by the County's Sustainability Program - brought together more than 50 IT professionals from across the county government to learn more about green IT issues and solutions. Presenters reviewed topics ranging from the environmental impacts of IT equipment, and strategies around procurement, packaging, and energy conservation. EPA covered how to purchase greener electronics, focusing on ENERGY STAR and EPEAT. **Contact John Katz at 415-972-3283.**



Energy

Energy

Tribal

Tribal

Tribal Climate Change Symposium

On December 1st-4th, 2008, Region 5 staff attended the Tribal Climate Change Symposium in Milwaukee, WI. The symposium announced the availability of EPA technical assistance to the Tribes. Region 5 offered to visit tribal casinos, hotels or other designated facilities to conduct pollution prevention and energy conservation assessments to support Tribal waste management and climate change efforts. Region 5 staff will follow up with interested tribes by sending letters detailing the specifics of the pollution prevention and energy conservation assessments. **Contact: Briana Bill: 312-353-6646**

Tribal Pharmaceutical Waste Issues Addressed

On November 24, 2008, the tribal waste management subgroup of the Multi-Federal Agency MOU Workgroup held its first conference call to address tribal pharmaceutical waste issues. Region 5 tribes, EPA, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service, and the University of Wisconsin Extension - Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center (SHWEC) participated. Tribes discussed challenges in ongoing collection, storage, transportation and disposal of pharmaceutical waste on reservations. SHWEC shared information on piloting pharmaceutical mail-back programs with various Wisconsin communities. The subgroup identified issues to pursue to help improve pharmaceutical waste collection and management with tribes, such as researching the possibility of using drop boxes for collection, and legal options for dissolving controlled substances in liquid for household hazardous waste collection.

Contact: Dolly Tong, 312- 886-1019

Region 9 Developing Tribal Green Building Workgroup

The Region 9, RTOC Green Building Workgroup held its first discussion about the direction and focus for this newly formed group. Issues raised by tribes included lack of funding for sustainable development, the need for weatherization of existing homes, poor drinking and wastewater infrastructure, and the general lack of green building in Indian Country. Tribes also discussed green building and alternative energy projects they were embarking on. In addition to sharing experiences amongst tribes, the meeting provided a forum for tribes to give input to EPA on how to better address green building issues on tribal lands. Region 9 will hold the next workgroup meeting during the Winter RTOC meeting in Arizona in February. The direction and focus for this group will be determined then. **Contact Michelle Baker, 415-972-3206.**

Landfills

Landfills

Region 5 Hosts Bioreactor Research, Development, and Demonstration Implementation call

On December 15th, 2008, Region 5 hosted a biannual conference call on bioreactor Research, Development and Demonstration (RDD) projects. Participants on the call included, HQ OSW, ORD, Regions 5 and 7, states from Regions 5 and 7, and representatives from ASTSWMO. Participants shared information about specific RDD projects and related concerns. The next conference call will be held in June.

Contact: Rebecca Geyer, 312-353-8314

Update on Countywide Landfill, Ohio

Work continues at the Countywide Landfill in East Sparta, Ohio on implementation of a Settlement Agreement with Republic Waste Services of Ohio II, LLC. To date, 39 additional acres of 60 mil HDPE temporary liner has been placed over an area of the landfill experiencing an underground reaction/fire involving 600,000 tons of aluminum dross. The purpose of the liner is to keep oxygen and precipitation out while containing odors and potentially harmful gas emissions. In addition, five real-time, continuous air monitors have been put into operation around the perimeter of the affected unit. In September, elevated temperatures detected in buried probes revealed that the reaction/fire was moving into a previously unaffected portion of the landfill. In response, the excavation of approximately 400,000 tons of waste began on December 8 to create an isolation break, which will effectively contain the reaction/fire within the originally impacted 88 acre landfill area. Both operational and odor control methods are being employed to limit impact on the community. EPA and/or START contractors are onsite full time to oversee the excavation, which is expected to continue until late Spring. **Contact Paul Ruesch: 312-886-7898**



Climate Change, P2 & Greening

EPA Region 10 Climate Partnership Forum

On December 4, 2008, sixteen representatives from Fortune 1000 companies headquartered in EPA Region 10 (and five representatives from other Region 10 companies) attended EPA's Climate Partnership Forum, hosted by Weyerhaeuser at their offices in Federal Way, WA. EPA Region 10 partnership program staff and several office directors attended, along with the Regional Administrator (R.A.) and Deputy Regional Administrator (D.R.A.). R.A. Elin Miller spoke about EPA's agenda for addressing climate change and the national regulatory picture, as well as EPA partnership programs which address climate change, including WasteWise. Representatives from Micron, Nike, and Boeing talked about their positive experiences with EPA partnership programs, followed by speakers from Weyerhaeuser, the Oregon Governor's Office, the Seattle Climate Partnership, and the Western Climate Initiative. The Forum wrapped up with a general discussion of climate change-related topics by all attendees. **Contact: Domenic Calabro, 206-553-6640.**

Renewable Energy from Organics Recycling

On December 18, Region 7 hosted a "brown bag," connecting to the RCC Web Academy session on *Renewable Energy from Organics Recycling*. Representatives from local government, a nonprofit, and a solid waste district planning agency, as well as regional staff participated in the session, which was followed by a brief discussion. **Contact: Jennifer Dawani, 913-551-7162**

St. Johns University Green Construction and Operation MOU Highlights

On Friday, December 5th, the RA and the Executive VP and COO of St. Johns University signed a Green Construction and Operation MOU. The signing ceremony took place at the St. Johns campus and instead of signing the document on a table, we used a recycling container. Under the MOU, St. Johns will join a number of EPA partnership programs including: Energy Star, WasteWise, GreenScapes, Coal Combustion Products Partnership, Clean Construction USA and will use WaterSense products.

The University has made a number of innovative commitments toward sustainable practices that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and its carbon footprint. Under the MOU, St. John's will embark on numerous energy saving projects such as a high efficient chilled water plant and building retrofits that are expected to surpass the Energy Star goal of 10% energy reduction and may even approach a 30% reduction. St. John's will continue to utilize coal combustion products in concrete join the Coal Combustion Products Partnership Program with the goal to increase CCPs usage to 50% by 2011. They have also committed to educate employees, faculty and students on how to reduce energy consumption.

By committing to use WaterSense products and join the EPA GreenScapes program, St. John's will incorporate water conservation techniques on its entire campus for both indoor and outdoor uses. This will not only conserve precious drinking water, but it will also save the energy that is needed to treat the water before and after use. They will also rely on the re-use of products that save energy as well as our natural resources. One area that will be studied is the use of compost material from an on-site campus food waste composter similar to what Montclair State University, another MOU partner, is currently doing.

In the area of municipal waste recycling, St. John's has invested in a large number of additional recycling containers and will increase their recycling program that includes cardboard, paper, plastic, metal, glass, toner cartridges, computers & monitors, batteries and light bulbs. The school will develop a plan for new construction of a Combined Heat and Power plant on the Queens campus to reduce its fossil fuel energy consumption and carbon footprint.

The university will join EPA's Clean Construction USA Program to cooperatively promote and implement measures to reduce exhaust emissions and will purchase 10 hybrid vehicles and use ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel in its vehicles and appropriate equipment. St. Johns will report to EPA every 6 months and will include a quantitative assessment of conservation efforts for water, energy and waste reduction/recycling activities.

Cushman & Wakefield MOU Highlights

Cushman & Wakefield, Inc., one of the world's largest commercial real estate firms, will reduce environmental impacts of its offices and the buildings it manages through the Green MOU signed on December 12th. **This MOU extends nation-wide. The Green MOU with C&W covers all of it's 64 corporate offices and over 3,200 properties managed across the country. In total, over 265 million square feet of building space will be covered under the MOU.** Some of the EPA Partnership Programs that C&W will join and actively take part in include Energy Star, WasteWise, Greenscapes and using WaterSense products.

The MOU includes the following goals for Cushman & Wakefield:

- Joining the EPA Energy Star Program and evaluating opportunities to conserve energy when selecting new corporation office spaces and beginning an energy efficiency pilot program at 52 offices.
- Decreasing energy consumption across the company's office and managed properties portfolio by 30 percent by 2012.
- Helping building owners conduct energy analyses utilizing EPA's ENERGY STAR benchmarking tool.
- Encouraging its clients with data centers to participate in EPA's Data Center Data Collection Initiative to help develop an ENERGY STAR rating for data centers.
- Tracking water usage at properties the company manages using the EPA ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool and promoting the use of water efficient fixtures and water conservation measures.
- Joining EPA's WasteWise partnership program, though which the company will conduct an assessment of waste reduction activities, document sustainable purchases, and provide an annual estimate on improvements in waste reduction and recycling at selected properties.
- Joining EPA's GreenScapes program and encouraging its clients to re-use industrial materials and implement sustainable landscaping practices.
- Seeking certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, or a similar green building rating system for new corporate office space.

Cushman & Wakefield will report the progress on its goals to EPA every six months. Based on the reports, EPA will quantify the benefits of the company's environmental efforts.

The Region has similar agreements in place with the New York Mets for the team's new Citi Field stadium, the Destiny USA mall project in Syracuse, N.Y., Montclair State University in Montclair, N.J., and St. John's University in Queens, N.Y.

Upcoming MOUs are expected to include the North Shore Health System that will apply to 14 major hospitals in the New York Metropolitan area, Grubb & Ellis property management firm, NY York Giants, Monmouth University, Brookhaven National Lab and Stony Brook Hospital.

Green Building Strategies Presented to Shopping Center Developers

Green building strategies were presented to developers, contractors, and engineers at the Centerbuild conference in Phoenix on Thursday, December 4th. Over 2000 attendees convene annually at Centerbuild, hosted by the International Council of Shopping Centers. This year the conference had a new focus on integrating sustainability into planning, development, design and construction of shopping centers and retail stores. The presentation provided strategies for integrating green building and waste reduction into shopping developments, including incorporating energy efficiency, deconstructing to reduce waste, and educating building users and consumers. **Contact Saskia van Gendt, 415-947-4103.**

Other News

Other News

The Can Manufacturers Institute Announces New Logo



The Can Manufacturers Institute (CMI) today unveiled its new recycling logo and invited brand owners and retailers to use the symbol in order to increase recycling awareness among consumers. The new symbol is a way to reinforce the can recycling message and inform consumers about the can's recycling benefits, especially in light of consumer trends towards environmentally-friendly products and packages. John Hayes, CMI's Chairman, said, "Cans offer many consumer benefits associated with long shelf life, ease of storage, and tamper-proof reassurance; and the recycling benefits offered by canned products satisfy consumer demand for planet-responsible packaging as well. This logo gives brand owners another way to communicate to consumers that by using and recycling cans, they can significantly reduce their own environmental footprints." Robert Budway, President of CMI, said, "CMI's members care deeply about sustainability. We hope that brand owners and retailers will use the new logo to inform consumers and consequently boost metal can recycling rates. Even though cans are already the most recycled containers in the U.S., we strive for even higher recycling rates." <http://www.cancentral.com/>

Dell's Packaging Plan: Cut 20 Million Pounds, Save \$8 Million

ROUND ROCK, Texas -- Dell plans to eliminate 20 million pounds of packaging for its desktop and laptop computers around the world within the next four years, a move expected to save \$8.1 million. The company will cut out about 10 percent of its computer packaging as well as make the remaining packaging greener. Dell wants to make at least

75 percent of its packaging curbside recyclable by 2012 and increase the renewable and recycled content of cushioning and corrugate by 40 percent. The computer giant will utilize air-filled cushion technology, molded pulp cushions and recycled HDPE (High-Density Polyethylene) thermal-formed cushions to replace current foam cushioning. The plastic HDPE cushions will contain 100 percent recycled content, and the amount Dell plans to use in 2009 will be equivalent to about 33 million milk jugs. Dell is already using recycled HDPE to package its Studio Hybrid PCs, and estimates it will use the equivalent of 2 million milk jugs to protect them next year.

For 2007, Dell aimed to reduce outbound packaging by 10 million pounds, and ended up exceeding that goal by about 10 percent.

<http://www.greenbiz.com/news/2008/12/17/dells-packaging-plan-cut-20-million-pounds-save-8-million>

2008 R4 States' Solid Waste and Recycling Managers Meeting in Nashville, TN

RCRA Programs and Material Management co-hosted the 2008 R4 States' Solid Waste and Recycling Managers meeting in Nashville, TN on December 2-4, 2008. During the meeting, discussions included identifying relevant solid waste issues, goals and objectives, and the future of the program.

The meeting succeeded in bringing all of the States together in a collaborative partnership to discuss our combined solid waste and recycling efforts. Again, this meeting compliments our goals to develop programs and activities to facilitate the reduction of solid waste in the Southeastern Regional States. Overall, the meeting was well-received. Please contact Delores Rodgers-Smith, 404-562-8479, rodgers-smith.delores@epa.gov for more information.



New and Reused Resources

Federal Environmental Symposia Call for Presentations is OPEN!!

The 2009 Federal Environmental Symposia (FES) Call for Presentations is open and will run through February 13, 2009. Visit <http://www.fedcenter.gov/symposia2009-cfp> to learn more and to submit an abstract for consideration.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for these exciting events!

FES-West: June 2-4, 2009, Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington

FES-East: June 16-18, 2009, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland



2009 FES Save the Date and CFP Announcement.pdf

Region 2 releases Local Government Sustainability Guide

Region 2 has designed a handbook to aid municipalities in going green by sharing success stories and approaches to becoming sustainable.

http://www.epa.gov/region02/sustainability/greencommunities/Planning_for_a_Sustainable_Future.pdf

Call for Nominations: 2009 White House Closing the Circle (CTC)

The Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE) is now accepting nominations for the 2009 White House Closing the Circle (CTC) Awards. This program recognizes outstanding achievements of Federal employees and their

facilities for efforts that resulted in significant contributions to, or have made a significant impact on, promoting environmental stewardship. The awards focus on waste prevention, recycling, green purchasing activities, environmental management systems, high performance/sustainable buildings, electronics stewardship, alternative fuel use and reduced fuel usage under Executive Order 13423, "Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management." Please note nominations can only be submitted on-line until January, 30, 2009, by going to www.fedcenter.gov/ctcawards.

Strive for 45 is an Agency wide effort to achieve EPA's waste diversion goal of 45 percent set under Executive Order 13423. Under *Strive for 45*, all EPA facilities are challenged to reinvigorate our recycling and waste diversion practices. (Thanks to Chris Beling.) <http://intranet.epa.gov/HQrecycling/strivefor45/index.htm>

The Greater Philadelphia Commercial Recycling Council. Since its origin in 1995, the Greater Philadelphia Commercial Recycling Council has provided its members with a forum for discussing recycling and related environmental issues in the Delaware Valley. The Council's mission is to support environmental managers through peer-to-peer consultation, state-of-the-art information, professional educational opportunities, technical assistance, and networking. (Thanks to Mike Giuranna.) <http://gpcrc.com>

INFORM's Secret Life Series

INFORM is a prime force in educating decision-makers from both the public and private sectors about the need for preventive approaches to some of this country's most complex environmental problems. **INFORM's Secret Life Series** is a collection of videos that highlight the environmental impacts of everyday products we all use. (Thanks to Jay Bassett.) <http://secrete-life.org/index.php>

PAYT, ABC and SMART articles out

PAYT; a series of articles this month on the heels of our ABC (American Big City) campaign encouraging more urban centers to adopt the SMART (Save Money And Reduce Trash) program.

<http://www.fortressmanchester.com/home/2008/12/8/pay-as-you-throw.html>

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_hb5553/is_200205/ai_n21620318?tag=rel.res1

<http://cbs4denver.com/green/trash.recycling.pay.2.757360.html>

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

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| January 13 | Region 9 Industrial Materials Recycling Forum in San Francisco For more information contact John Sager, sager.john@epa.gov . |
| January 15, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: Venue Recycling – Stadiums & Convention Centers |
| January 18, 2009 | NRC Recyclemania launched |
| January 19, 2009 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Federal Holiday. |
| January 20, 2009 | Inauguration of the 44 th President |

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| January 21-22, 2009 | RFT Issues Forum 2009, Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, FL. Among issues; the downturn in recyclables commodities markets. http://www.recyclefloridatoday.org |
| January 21-23, 2009 | International Electronics Recycling Congress, Salzburg, Austria www.icm.ch . |
| January 26-29, 2009 | The US Composting Council's Annual Conference and Exhibition at the Westin Galleria, Houston, TX. http://www.compostingcouncil.org/conference/ |
| February 4-6, 2009 | Tennessee Recycling Coalition Conference, Franklin, TN http://www.trc-online.org/TRCConference.html |
| February 4, 2009 | Green Jobs Conference, Washington, DC http://www.greenjobsconference.org/site/c.rvl3liNWJqE/b.3820537/k.BE92/Home.htm |
| February 9-13, 2009 | SWANA Recycling & Special Waste 2009 Conference, Portland, OR http://thinkingoutsidethebluebox.org . |
| February 16, 2009 | President's Day. Federal Holiday. |
| February 18-20, 2009 | Environmental Industry Summit, San Diego, CA http://events.zweigwhite.com/eisummit/pg.asp?pg=8 |
| February 19, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: Green Marketing Claims http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm |
| February 19-21, 2009 | 2009 TIA Commercial Tire, Retread and Recycling Conference, San Antonio www.tireindustry.org . |
| February 24-25, 2009 | Plastic Recycling 2009: The North American Plastics Recycling Conference, Orlando, Florida; www.plasticsrecycling.com . |
| February 24-27, 2009 | GPEC 2009, Global Plastics Environmental Conference, Orlando, Florida www.4spe.org . |
| February 25-26, 2009 | Southeastern Lifecycle Construction Conference, Atlanta, GA http://www.lifecycleconstruction.net |
| March 1-4, 2009 | Southeast Recycling Conference & Trade Show, Destin, FL http://www.southeastrecycling.com/ |
| March 8-10, 2009 | The International Climate Change Conference, NY (The Heartland Institute's Market Based Solutions version) |
| March 9-12, 2009 | 32 nd SWANA Landfill Gas Symposium, Atlanta, GA http://www.lfg.swana.org/ |
| March 17-18, 2009 | NERC Spring Conference, |
| March 15-18, 2009 | 24 th Int'l Conf on Solid Waste Technology, Philadelphia, PA http://www2.widener.edu/~sxw0004/call.html |

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| March 19, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: NPEP Chemical Flow Analysis Tool http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm |
| March 22-24, 2009 | C & D World 2009, Tampa, FL http://www.cdrecycling.org/ |
| March 22-24, 2009 | The American Forest & Paper Association's (AF&PA) 132 nd Annual Paper Week, NYC, NY |
| March 23-25, 2009 | Algae Biofuels World Summit 2009, San Francisco, CA http://www.infocastinc.com/index.php/conference/algae09 |
| March 23-25, 2009 | ECOS Spring Meeting, Hilton Old Town, Alexandria, VA http://www.ecos.org/ |
| March 24, 2009 | SWIMM Team and Program Managers Meeting. |
| March 25-27, 2009 | RCC Workshop, Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, VA |
| March 23-27, 2009 | EcoProcura 2009: Climate Neutral through Procurement, Reykjavik (Iceland), http://www.iclei-europe.org/index.php?id=6337 |
| March 31- April 2, 2009 | National Grants Management Training, San Francisco, California (K. Bilal (202) 5661891) |
| April 16, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: Pay-As-You-Throw: A SMART Climate and Waste Solution for Cities (SMART = Save Money And Reduce Trash) http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm |
| April | ASTSWMO Mid Year Meeting TBD |
| April 18-22, 2009 | 2009 Green Cities Conference and Expo, Oregon Convention Center, Portland, Oregon http://www.nlc.org/CONFERENCES_EVENTS/GreenCities/greencitieshome.aspx |
| April 26, 2009 | Institute of Scrap Recyclers Industries (ISRI) Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV |
| April 27-29, 2009 | Building Materials Reuse Association's national deconstruction conference, DECON '09, Chicago, IL on the University of Illinois Chicago campus |
| April 27-30, 2009 | BioCycle International Conference 2009: Composting, Waste Diversion and Renewable Energy From Organics Recycling, San Diego, CA https://www.jgpress.com/conferences1/conferences1.html |
| April 28-30, 2008 | Urban Forum: Neighborhood Economic Development and Commercial Revitalization Conference , Indianapolis, Indiana (National League of Cities) |
| May 3-6, 2009 | Solid Waste & Recycling Conference, Lake George, NY http://www.nyfederation.org/ |
| May 5-7, 2009 | 12th national Brownfields Conference, Detroit Cobo Center, Detroit, MI. |
| May 17-19, 2009 | 2 nd Annual Waste –to-Fuels Conference & Trade Show, San Diego, CA http://www.swix.ws/ |

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| May 20, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: Returns on Recycling Investments (jobs, revenue) http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm |
| June 1-5, 2009 | SWANA 14 th Annual Landfill Symposium, Savannah, GA http://www.juneconference.swana.org/ |
| June 3-4, 2009 | The Green Procurement Conference and Exposition 2009, Chicago, IL http://www.thegreenexposition.com/ |
| June 7-9, 2009 | Recycling Today's Plastics Recycling Conference and Trade Show, Atlanta, GA http://www.plasticsrecyclingconference.com/ Recycling Today's Electronics Recycling Conference and Trade Show, Atlanta, GA http://www.electronicrecyclingconference.com/ Recycling Today's Paper Recycling Conference and Trade Show, Atlanta, GA http://www.paperrecyclingconference.com/ |
| June 7-10, 2009 | Recycle Florida Today, Inc. Annual Conference & Exhibition will take place at the Radisson Resort at the Port, Cape Canaveral, FL. For more info on this event contact info@recyclefloridatoday.org |
| June 8-11, 2009 | Waste EXPO, Las Vegas, NV http://www.wasteexpo.com/wasteexpo2009/public/enter.aspx |
| June 14-18, 2009 | ICLEI World Congress 2009, Edmonton, Canada www.iclei.org/worldcongress2009 |
| June 18, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: Industrial Materials Recycling 101 http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm |
| June | ASTSWMO Annual Meeting TBD |
| June 28–30, 2009 | BOMA Annual Conference and The Office Building Show, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA |
| July 16, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: Biodegradable Plastics 101 http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm |
| July 24-28, 2009 | National Association of Counties (NACO) Annual Conference, Nashville, TN |
| August 20, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: Sustainable Product Outlook http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm |
| Aug 30-Sept 2, 2009 | KEEN on GREEN, 12th Annual Texas Recycling and Sustainability Summit Moody Gardens Hotel, Spa & Convention Center, Galveston Island, TX http://www.recyclingstar.org/summit_2009.html |
| September 17, 2009 | RCC Web Academy: Source Reduction – A Vision for a Zero Waste America http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm |
| Sept. 15-17, 2009 | ISRI Commodities Roundtable Forum. Hyatt Regency Chicago (downtown). |
| September 21-23 | ECOS Annual Meeting, Whitefish, MT |

- September 23-24 E-Scrap 2009, Orlando, FL
<http://www.resource-recycling.com/E-Scrap%20conference/2009/index.html>
- October 15, 2009 RCC Web Academy: School Chemical Cleanout (SC3 Program)
<http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/rcc/web-academy/index.htm>
- October 4-7, 2009 NRC Annual Congress & Expo, Portland, OR
- October 19-21, 2009 9th Annual BioCycle Conference On Renewable Energy From Organics Recycling
 Minneapolis, Minnesota <https://www.jgpress.com/conferences1/conferences1.html>
- November 10-14, 2009 2009 Congress of Cities and Expo, San Antonio, TX
- November 11-12, 2009 Greenbuild International Conference & Expo, Phoenix, AZ
<http://www.greenbuildexpo.org/>
- Nov 30- Dec 12, 2009 Copenhagen 2009: Climate Conference in Copenhagen
<http://www.erantis.com/events/denmark/copenhagen/climate-conference-2009/index.htm>
- Sometime in 2009 Your Birthday. May it be filled joy of living another year in interesting times, with a job and a future. Millions are not so blessed.

Thanks goes to Anthony Carrell who did some of the editing of this document; to Gail Hansen for publishing this to the web and **to all the contributors** that share what is going on in their neck of the woods. Without people taking the precious time in their day (and night) to share, this document would not happen.



Plan Green Meetings:

<http://www.epa.gov/oppt/greenmeetings>



EPA OSW Headquarters Directory

<http://intranet.epa.gov/intraosw/osw-staff2.htm>

EPA RCRA Regional Directory

<http://intranet.epa.gov/intraosw/miswd/reg-staff.htm>